

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 18-24 are pending and under consideration in the above-identified application. Claims 9-17 and 25-32 were previously withdrawn from consideration.

In the Office Action of August 19, 2005, Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-8, 18, 20 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being purportedly anticipated by *Nagata* (US 6,009,396). Claims 3, 5, 19 and 21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the patentable subject matter covered by claims 3, 5, 19 and 21. Applicant has amended claims 3, 5, 19 and 21 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion to place these claims in condition for allowance. In addition, Applicant made minor corrections to the claims 3, 5, 19 and 21 without changing the meaning of the respective claims. For example, Applicant substituted the term "a signal source or a plurality of signal sources" with the equivalent term "at least one signal source."

Withdrawn claims 9-17 and 25-32 have been cancelled without prejudice to pursue the same in a divisional application.

Finally, although Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's claim rejections based on *Nagata*, Applicant has cancelled the rejected claims 1, 6-8, 18, 20, 22-24 in order to permit the allowed claims to proceed to issuance. However, Applicant reserves the right to pursue the cancelled claims in another application.

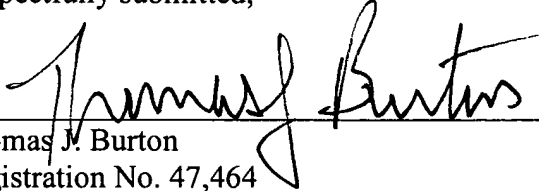
I. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


Thomas J. Burton

Registration No. 47,464

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP

P.O. Box 061080

Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower

Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080

(312) 876-8000